

Burdekin Haughton Customer Advisory Committee

Date: Thursday 7 December 2023

Time: 9:00am – 11:00am

Location: Sunwater Clare Office (Cnr Satchel and George Streets, Clare QLD)

Attendees: Peter Hall, Mario Barbagallo, Lyn McLaughlin, Greg Watson, David Satori, Ian Davies, Andrew Cross, Melissa Boulter, Evan Shannon, Terry Granshaw.

Department representatives: Ariane Leyden

Sunwater representatives: William Weaver (General Manager North), Ally Timms (Customer Engagement Coordinator), Alice Cuffe (Senior Stakeholder Relations Advisor), Fiona Salter (Project Manager), David Hayes (Operations Manager North), Brock Gorey (Operations Coordinator North).

Apologies: Robert Stockham -proxy: Andrew Cross

Minutes:

Agenda items		
Item no.	Item	Presenter
1	Meeting open	William Weaver
2	Lower Burdekin groundwater update	Fiona Salter
3	Burdekin Falls Dam improvement and raising project update	Alice Cuffe
4	Burdekin acrolein injection & operational update	David Hayes
5	General Business	William Weaver

1. Meeting open

- Sunwater gave an overview of the agenda.
- Attendees were introduced.
- Sunwater confirmed the previous meeting minutes were published on the Sunwater website.

2. Lower Burdekin Groundwater update

2.1. Update

- Sunwater presented from slide deck, including project progress and stakeholder engagement activities.

2.2. Questions and feedback

- A member asked about the diameter and material of the pipeline. Sunwater replied that it was 1200mm and made from poly.
- A member asked if the banks will be the same height. Sunwater confirmed they will utilise the banks as fill for the pipeline to achieve minimum cover requirements.
- A member noted other sections of the channel were leaking and asked why Sunwater is not actively repairing and updating the other sections. Sunwater explained they are initially prioritising the last bay of the channel as that is where the most value of improvement is. Decisions on what capital works occur will be based on data. The current data indicates the funding would be better spent ensuring the extraction bore field is completed correctly. Standard maintenance on clay lining will continue throughout the scheme.
- A member asked if Sunwater were looking at the environmental aspects of any change in operation at Gladys Lagoon. Sunwater informed that all aspects would be considered with the final solution.
- Council representative reported that the Townsville Enterprise is looking at funding pipes and rehabilitating water pumps. The Townsville Enterprise endorses Sunwater's modernisation business case. Council representative also informed the meeting that Burdekin Shire Council opposes the Hell's Gate project.
- A member asked if the overflow readings are electronic and if the operators must drive to site to read them. Sunwater replied that the readings are electronic and can be accessed remotely, eliminating the need for the maintainer to drive.

3. Burdekin Falls Dam (BFD) improvement and raising project update

3.1. Update

- Sunwater presented from the slide deck, including a project and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) update, a recap on the project approval and funding process, update on enabling works and procurement planning, key packages and tender release timings, the proposed delivery model, and the Industry Capability Networking (ICN).
- Sunwater has partnered with ICN Gateway to connect contractors, subcontractors, and suppliers with opportunities on the projects. Parties interested in providing goods or services, can register their interest on the ICN portal: <https://bfd.icn.org.au/>

3.2. Questions and feedback

- A member enquired if the Dam Improvement Project (DIP) would be progressed if the raising doesn't get approved. Sunwater responded yes, the proposed design solution for the raising with concrete buttressing meets the safety compliance requirements. Although BFD continues to operate as it should, improvement works must be undertaken to ensure compliance with these standards. The Queensland Government has advised Sunwater they want to see approvals and outcomes from the EIS and the detailed business case revisited before making a final investment decision. Sunwater added that some studies will support a DIP option, but the current focus is on the two-metre dam raising. Sunwater stated that the target for all dam improvements to meet updated standards is 2035.
- A member asked if the Alliance is fixed term to the project or will it be continued after the project is completed. Sunwater confirmed the Alliance (the partnership between Sunwater, a design partner and

construction contractor/s) is contracted to deliver the project then it will demobilise, and the dam will 'transition' back into daily operations.

- A member enquired if Sunwater is building a new worker's village for the project or upgrading the previous village. Sunwater confirmed the previous workers' village no longer exists. The camp for the main construction will need to house at least 350 people at its peak. Sunwater will fund a camp provider to construct the camp and supporting facilities but will not own the buildings. The majority of the camp buildings and accommodation will be demountable and will be demobilised at the end of the project.
- A member enquired if there will be any legacy structures and improvements to the caravan park once the project is completed. Sunwater confirmed there will be opportunities to leave some legacy infrastructure/structures for the benefit of the local Sunwater operations team and the community. Sunwater will be engaging with community about this as part of the project. Sunwater Operations team member noted recreation area improvements at BFD are currently being planned, as part of a broader Queensland Government funded program to progressively improve Sunwater-managed recreation facilities. Sunwater is developing a scope of works that ensures value for money and that structures or areas will not need to be dismantled or moved by the subsequent BFD project.
- A member commented that there is still a group of stakeholders advocating for a 14m dam raising. Sunwater confirmed an independent demand assessment concluded a dam raising of two metres will address demand under all scenarios. A two metre raise also provides the resilience needed to meet dam safety requirements. Compared to a 14m raise, it would have minimal environmental, social, and cultural heritage impacts.
- Sunwater announced in the first quarter of 2024, they will send an invite to the CAC to visit BFD. Invites and more information will be sent to the CAC in upcoming weeks.

4. Burdekin acrolein injection and operational update

4.1. Update

- Sunwater presented from slide deck including BHWSS scheme efficiency from July to September 2023 and historical results, Flumioxazin trial outcomes, meter anti-tampering wire installation (confirming the fleet is secure), consultation of the BHWSS June shutdown date and duration, acrolein (Mag H) injection draft schedule.
- Sunwater displayed operational dashboard server.

4.2. Questions and feedback

- A member enquired if there is a residual effect, particularly concerned for melon crops. Sunwater confirmed testing is currently ongoing.
- A member advised the shutdown needs to happen before crushing due to danger concerns. Sunwater confirmed after consultation, the shutdown will likely begin 1 June 2024.
- A member enquired who supported the shutdown dates. Sunwater confirmed most customers advised this was a suitable shutdown period.
- A member enquired if there was stock of the prototype gate no 52. Sunwater confirmed they ordered five at the time and that they have stock.

5. General Business

5.1. Sunwater actioning

- Action item: Sunwater to send invitations and more information on the BFD visit in 2024.
- Action item: Sunwater to send invitation to the next CAC meeting in 2024.

5.2. Meeting close

- Meeting closed at 10:43am

6. Approval and review

Chair:	William Weaver
Minutes:	Ally Timms
Date:	Monday 11 December 2023

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